

Washington State Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting

Saturday, September 20, 2003

9:00am – 3:30pm

Saint Placid Priory

500 College St. NE

Lacey, WA

Meeting Summary

Attendance

BPAC Citizen Members:

Mark Semrau, Chair - Snohomish, Skagit, Island, & Whatcom Counties
Todd Smith, Vice-Chair - Adams, Okanogan, Douglas, Chelan, & Grant Counties
Ernie Grillo, Past Chair - King County
David McCulloch - Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor, Mason, Thurston, Kitsap, & Pierce Counties
David Levinger - Statewide Pedestrian Representative
Jennifer Campos - Pacific, Lewis, Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark, Skamania, & Klickitat Counties
Joseph Johnson - Adams, Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille, Lincoln, Spokane, & Whitman Counties
Greg Pezoldt - County Government Representative
Richard Beightol - Yakima, Kittitas, Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Asotin

Speakers:

WSDOT Secretary Doug MacDonald
Stephanie Tax, WSDOT's Highways and Local Programs
Barbara Culp, Exec. Director, Bicycle Alliance of Washington

Members of the Public:

Jim Lazar, Capital Bicycle Club
Shela Brown, Capital Bicycle Club
Brady Clark, Olympia
Chris Hawkins, Capital Bicycle Club

BPAC Ex Officio Members:

Faye Jenkins-Edwards, WSDOT Southwest Region
TJ Nedrow, WSDOT Olympic Region
Thomas Noyes, WSDOT Northwest Region
Donna Storeide, WSDOT South Central Region

WSDOT Committee Staff:

Paula Reeves, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator

Introductions

Mark Semrau called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment

From 9:00am to 9:30am, the Committee heard public comment summarized in the following table.

Name	City	Topic of Public Comment
Jim Lazar	Olympia	Brief history and slides of progress in Olympia
Chris Hawkins	Olympia	Briefed the committee on a program administered by Climate Solutions called the Bicycle Commuter Contest

Approval of Prior Meeting Summary from Prior Meeting

Next, the committee approved the March Meeting Summary without comment and the updated business plan for the committee with editorial comments.

Region Updates - All

All the updates distributed at the meeting are available as separate pages. Contact Paula Reeves 360-705-7258 or Reevesp@WSDOT.WA.GOV to receive copies.

Update on Pilot Bike Route Signage Project – Ernie Grillo

Ernie Grillo talked about the origin of this project at the March 8th, 2003, BPAC Meeting. At that time the committee wanted to pilot a signage project. They identified the greatest need to be a route connecting modal centers in Seattle to the SeaTac Airport.

Barb Culp, Executive Director of the Bicycle Alliance of Washington, participated in each of the three meetings with the jurisdictions involved (the Port of Seattle, City of Seatac, City of Seattle, King County, WSDOT, PSRC, and City of Burien). She discussed the progress of this group to date and the routes being considered. Thomas Noyes asked for more information about the project purpose. The committee discussed the primary purposes of this project to aid bicycle tourists and also bike commuters.

Ernie made a motion to send a letter of support from the committee to the agencies involved with this project helping them seek funding (Option #2 of Briefing Paper #1). The committee recommended including some additional facilities (e.g., kiosks, bike cages, bike parking) in any signage grant application for this route. Dave McCullouch seconded the motion, and the motion carried (all in favor, none opposed).

Understanding Funding Options for Pedestrian and Bicycle Projects – Secretary of Transportation, Doug MacDonald and Stephanie Tax, WSDOT's Highways and Local Programs Division

The committee heard a presentation on funding options from Stephanie Tax, Manager of WSDOT's Highways and Local Programs, Program Management Office. She discussed the recent extension of the existing federal Transportation Efficiency Act (TEA-21). She distributed a matrix of funding options and walked through each with the committee. Stephanie also discussed the history of federal funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects, and explained federal earmarks.

Secretary MacDonald joined the discussion after Stephanie finished her presentation. He talked about the planning process and the work WSDOT is doing to prepare to update Washington's Transportation Plan. He invited the committee to get involved in the update process.

Paper copies of reports distributed at the meeting are available as separate pages. Contact Paula Reeves 360-705-7258 or Reevesp@WSDOT.WA.GOV to receive copies.



Secretary MacDonald Speaking to BPAC 9/03

Bicycle Route Restrictions in Washington – *Barbara Culp, Executive Director of the Bicycle Alliance of Washington*

Barbara Culp discussed Briefing Paper #2 summarizing the recommendations made by a multi-agency task force on defining undesirable locations for bicycling. The task force recommended a set of criteria to identify undesirable cycling locations including: amount of average daily traffic, shoulder width, interchange spacing, off/on ramp spacing, and sight distance. TJ Nedrow offered some insights on the criteria discussion at the last task force meetings. The committee discussed and debated the recommendations extensively, and made a number of editorial and substantive comments.

As the time allotted for this agenda item passed, Todd Smith made a motion to table this topic and continue discussion during a conference call in the first part of October. Dave McCullough seconded the motion and the motion carried (all in favor, none opposed).

Bicycling/Walking Events in Washington – *David McCullough*

The Chair, Mark Semrau, acknowledged the limited time available for this agenda item and made an adjustment in the agenda. He postponed the Bicycle Compatibility Index item and asked Paula Reeves to continue to work with each BPAC member on this until the next meeting.

David McCullough proceeded with a discussion of the Bicycling/Walking Events, Briefing Paper #3. He explained that WSDOT wanted to post guidelines for event organizers on the website and recommended adding some information to the draft provided in the Briefing Paper. He started a discussion of the process, specifically, the Letter of Acknowledgement and Letter of Agreement. The committee was not fully prepared to discuss the process in depth.

David Levinger made a motion to use the list-serv to exchange information and ideas about (1) improving the event process and (2) improving the information to be posted on the website prior to the conference call in the first part of October. Joe Johnson seconded the motion and the motion carried (all in favor, none opposed).

Closing Comments



Mark Semrau, BPAC Committee Chair ,
speaking at Chehalis Western Trail dedication

Mark Semrau reiterated the need for a follow up conference call in early October and listed the issues to be discussed: (1) bicycle route restrictions and (2) WSDOT's event policy and website information. Mark quickly closed the meeting at 3:30pm to allow everyone time to travel to the Chehalis-Western Trail dedication ceremony as BPAC members were expected to participate.